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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

**FLORAL DIVERSITY IN THE WASTELAND OF RAMDASS VILLAGE; TEHSIL AJNALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR, PUNJAB, INDIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

Ramdass is a famous village in Punjab due to entomb of Baba Budha Sahab ji. It is located in tehsil Ajnala district Amritsar, Punjab. Most of the land in Punjab is used in agriculture practice, while 07 % is wasteland. Even the district Amritsar and Ramdass has a waste land, in which herbs, shrubs and trees are growing. This study was undertaken to document the floral diversity in the waste land of Ramdass village, teshil Ajnala, district Amritsar, Punjab. The study shows that 70 are easily available in wasteland in the vicinity of Ramdass village, which are belong to 65 Genus and 37 families.

Keywords: Floral diversity in wasteland

**INTRODUCTION**

Plants are the inspirational source in human life to afford social, economic and medicinal needs. India has a wide range of diversity in culture, vegetation and religion. Ramdas village is a small and famous village in Majha region of Punjab, tehsil Ajnala district Amritsar.<sup>1</sup> Presence of entomb (Samadh) of Baba Buddha Sahab Ji make this place very famous in sikh history. Baba Buddha Sahib ji blessed with six Gurus<sup>2, 3, 4</sup>. Most of sikh pilgrims visit Ramdass to seek blessing from Baba ji.

Wasteland is not used in agriculture and horticulture due to lack of supportive growth factor such as balanced nutrition, irrigation, deforestation and over cultivation of crops. Fertile land altered in to waste land due to water and wind erosion, chemical, and physical degradation. About, 83.13% land is utilized for agriculture practice and 6.07% is wasteland in Punjab and 1.04 % in Amritsar to the total geographical area<sup>5</sup>. The statistics of wasteland in India changed in last decade. It was 1172.84 square km in 2003<sup>7</sup> and reduces to 1.019.50 square km in year 2010<sup>8</sup>. It is due to planting trees, herbs, shrubs; promotion of agro forestry, training and awareness programs to local population at village level<sup>6</sup>. Such activities are governed by Govt. agencies and Non government organization (NGO). Scientific communities introduce new techniques by following the rule of Mother Nature do develop new varieties of crops and use the natural fertilizers.

The study was undertaken to explore the commonly growing vegetation in waste land of Ramdass. This study is beneficial to local people, students of Botany, agriculture, horticulture, pharmacy and for environmentalists.

**MATERIAL AND METHOD**

The field surveys were conducted in January 2012 to October 2014 in the vicinity of Ramdass village, tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar, Punjab. Collected plant specimens were identified and dried in blotting sheets. The specimens were identified on the basis of literature survey through books, scientific journals<sup>9-12</sup> and matched with the herbarium kept at BSI (Botanical Survey of India), Dehradun and Punjabi university Patiala, Punjab. All the plant specimens were arranged alphabetically, enumerated with scientific names. Local name of the collected plant species were documented with the help of local people of Ramdass village, through interview and discussion in the age group of 40 – 80 year. English name, habitat and family are enumerated through books, Journal and scientific database.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION****Result**

This study shows that 70 plants species are easily available in the vicinity of Ramdass village which are belonging to 65 genus 37 families. All the plants are mentioned in **Table 1**. It consists of family, local name,

English name, and habit. Prominent families are leguminosae, poaceae, and Rutaceae.

### Discussion

Ramdass village posses wide range of floral diversity which belongs to different family and habit.

### CONCLUSION

This study will be beneficial for the student of agriculture, horticulture, pharmacy and student of botany for the well being of human being by innovation and research. It will be beneficial for the new generation to know about the local names of plants in the vicinity of Ramdass village.

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**Table 1:** Plants available in the wasteland of Ramdass village. **D:** Dicot; **H:**Herb; **M-** Monocot; **S-** Shrub; **T-** Tree.

| S.N. | Name of Plant (Family)  | English name           | Local Name   | Habitat | Dicot/<br>monocot |
|------|---|------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1.   | <i>Acacia catechu</i> (L.f.) Willd.<br>(Leguminosae)                | Cutch tree             | Khair        | T       | D                 |
| 2.   | <i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Delile<br>(Leguminosae)                 | Black catechu          | Kikar        | T       | D                 |
| 3.   | <i>Acer caesium</i> Wall.ex Brandis<br>(Sapindaceae)                | Indian Maple           | Trekhan      | T       | D                 |
| 4.   | <i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.<br>(Amaranthaceae)                     | Devil's horsewhip      | Puthkanda    | H       | D                 |
| 5.   | <i>Aegle marmelos</i> (L.) Corrêa<br>(Rutaceae)                     | Holy fruit             | Bil          | T       | D                 |
| 6.   | <i>Albizia lebbek</i> L. Benth.<br>(Leguminosae)                    | East Indian walnut     | Siris        | T       | D                 |
| 7.   | <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> L.<br>(Primulaceae)                       | Pimperne               | Neel         | H       | D                 |
| 8.   | <i>Argemone mexicana</i> L.<br>(Papaveraceae)                       | Prickly Poppy          | Satyanashi   | H       | D                 |
| 9.   | <i>Bauhinia variegata</i> L.<br>(Leguminosae)                       | Camel's foot           | Kachnar      | T       | D                 |
| 10.  | <i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> L.<br>(Lecythidaceae)                | Indian Oak             | Hari Champa  | T       | D                 |
| 11.  | <i>Calligonum polygonoides</i> L.<br>(Polygonaceae)                 | Desert teak            | Ternie       | S       | D                 |
| 12.  | <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> (Sol. ex Gaertn.) G.Don<br>(Myrtaceae) | Weeping<br>bottlebrush | Bottle brush | T       | D                 |
| 13.  | <i>Calotropis procera</i> (Aiton) Dryand.<br>(Apocynaceae)          | Dead sea apple         | Ak           | S       | D                 |

|     |  |                   |             |   |   |
|-----|--|-------------------|-------------|---|---|
| 14. | <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. (Cannabinaceae)                        | Marijuana         | Bhang       | H | D |
| 15. | <i>Carthamus tinctorius</i> L. (Compositae)                      | Safflower         | Kasumbh     | H | D |
| 16. | <i>Cassia fistula</i> L. (Leguminosae)                           | Golden shower     | Amaltas     | T | D |
| 17. | <i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L. (Leguminosae)                      | Coffee senna      | Kasundi     | S | D |
| 18. | <i>Cedrela toona</i> Roxb. ex Rottler (Meliaceae)                | Red cedar         | Toon        | T | D |
| 19. | <i>Celosia argentea</i> L. (Amaranthaceae)                       | Cedrela           | Surwalie    | H | D |
| 20. | <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i> (L.) J.Presl (Lauraceae)              | Camphar           | Kapoor      | T | D |
| 21. | <i>Citrus medica</i> L. (Rutaceae)                               | Citron            | Khatta      | T | D |
| 22. | <i>Citrus maxima</i> (Burm.) Merr. (Rutaceae)                    | Pamelo            | Chakotra    | T | D |
| 23. | <i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> Roxb. (Convolvulaceae)                    | Giant Dodder      | Aakash bail | H | D |
| 24. | <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (L.) Pers. (Poaceae)                     | Bermuda grass     | Doob        | H | M |
| 25. | <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> DC. (Leguminosae)                        | Indian rose wood. | Shisham     | T | D |
| 26. | <i>Datura metel</i> L. (Solanaceae)                              | Thorn Apple       | Dhatura     | H | D |
| 27. | <i>Delonix regia</i> (Hook.) Raf. (Leguminosae)                  | Fslame tree       | Gulmohar    | T | D |
| 28. | <i>Dendrocalamus strictus</i> (Roxb.) Nees (Poaceae)             | Bamboo            | Baans       | H | D |
| 29. | <i>Eclipta alba</i> (L.) Hassk. (Asteraceae)                     | False daisy       | Bring Raj   | H | D |
| 30. | <i>Emex spinosa</i> L. (Polygonaceae)                            | Devil's thorn     | Trkandi     | H | D |
| 31. | <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> Labill. (Myrtaceae)                   | Blue gum          | Safeda      | T | D |
| 32. | <i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L. (Euphorbiaceae)                        | Asthma plant      | Dudali      | H | D |
| 33. | <i>Ficus bengalensis</i> L. (Moraceae)                           | Bengal fig        | Borh        | T | D |
| 34. | <i>Ficus religiosa</i> L. (Moraceae)                             | Sacred fig        | Pipal       | T | D |
| 35. | <i>Fraxinus xanthoxyloides</i> (G.Don) Wall. ex A.DC. (Oleaceae) | Dita bark tree    | Shangal     | T | D |
| 36. | <i>Impatiens balsamina</i> L. (Balsaminaceae)                    | Garden Balsam     | Tatura      | H | D |
| 37. | <i>Jasminum sambac</i> (L.) Aiton (Oleaceae)                     | Arabian jasmine   | Motia       | S | D |
| 38. | <i>Justicia adhatoda</i> L. (Acanthaceae)                        | Malabar Nut       | Pasuti      | S | D |
| 39. | <i>Lantana camara</i> L. (Verbenaceae)                           | Yellow sage       | Hule        | S | D |
| 40. | <i>Medicago polymorpha</i> L. (Leguminosae)                      | Burr medic        | Maina       | H | D |
| 41. | <i>Medicago falcata</i> L. (Leguminosae)                         | Yellow alfalfa    | Basin       | H | D |
| 42. | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> L. (Meliaceae)                         | Indian cedar      | Nim         | T | D |
| 43. | <i>Mimusops elengi</i> L. (Sapotaceae)                           | Spanish cherry    | Maulsari    | T | D |
| 44. | <i>Moringa pterygosperma</i> Gaertn. (Moringaceae)               | Drum stick        | Sohanjana   | T | D |
| 45. | <i>Morus alba</i> L. (Moraceae)                                  | White mulberry    | Tut         | T | D |
| 46. | <i>Murraya koenigii</i> (L.) Spreng. (Rutaceae)                  | Curry leaves      | Curry pata  | S | D |
| 47. | <i>Neolamarckia cadamba</i> (Roxb.) Bosser (Rubiaceae)           | Burflower-tree    | Kadamb      | T | D |
| 48. | <i>Nerium oleander</i> L.  | Oleander          | Kaner       | T | D |

|     |  |                              |               |   |   |
|-----|--|------------------------------|---------------|---|---|
|     | (Apocynaceae)  |                              |               |   |   |
| 49. | <i>Opuntia dillenii</i> (Ker Gawl.) Haw. (Cactaceae)                   | Prickly pear.                | Thor          | S | D |
| 50. | <i>Oxalis corniculata</i> L.<br>(Oxalidaceae)                          | Indian Sorrel                | Khatti booti  | H | D |
| 51. | <i>Panicum colonum</i> L (Poaceae)                                     | Jungle rice                  | Sinwak        | H | M |
| 52. | <i>Phoenix sylvestris</i> Roxb.<br>(Arecaceae)                         | Wild date palm               | Khajur        | T | D |
| 53. | <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre<br>(Leguminosae)                   | Indian beech                 | Badam paparie | H | D |
| 54. | <i>Ricinus communis</i> L. (Euphorbiaceae)                             | Castor bean                  | Rind          | S | D |
| 55. | <i>Saccharum spontaneum</i> L. (Poaceae)                               | Kans grass                   | Kans          | H | D |
| 56. | <i>Salix caprea</i> L.<br>(Salicaceae)                                 | Goat willow                  | Mushak        | S | M |
| 57. | <i>Sida cordifolia</i> L. (Malvaceae)                                  | Country Mallow               | Bala          | H | D |
| 58. | <i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill<br>(Compositae)                         | prickly sow thistle          | Peeli booti   | H | D |
| 59. | <i>Sorghum halepense</i> (L.) Pers.<br>(Poaceae)                       | Johnson grass                | Baru          | H | M |
| 60. | <i>Spondias pinnata</i> (L. f.) Kurz<br>(Anacardiaceae)                | Wild mango                   | Bhamb         | T | D |
| 61. | <i>Solanum xanthocarpum</i> Schard & Wendl<br>(Solanaceae)             | Yellow berried<br>nightshade | Kateli        | H | D |
| 62. | <i>Syzygium cumini</i> (L.) Skeels<br>(Myrtaceae)                      | Indian blackberry            | Jaman         | T | D |
| 63. | <i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.<br>(Leguminosae)                           | Tamarind                     | Imli          | T | D |
| 64. | <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> (L.) Weber (Asteraceae)                    | L ion's-tooth                | Dudhi         | H | D |
| 65. | <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> (Roxb. ex DC.) Wight &<br>Arn. (Combretaceae) | White marudah                | Arjan         | T | D |
| 66. | <i>Terminalia bellirica</i> (Gaertn.) Roxb.<br>(Combretaceae)          | Belleric myrobalan           | Bahera        | T | D |
| 67. | <i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz.<br>(Combretaceae)                      | Chebolic<br>Myrobalan        | Harad         | T | D |
| 68. | <i>Typha angustata</i> Bory & Chaub. (Typhaceae)                       | Indian Reed mace             | Kundar        | H | M |
| 69. | <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Linn<br>(Zygophyllaceae)                    | Calthrops                    | kokaduu       | T | D |
| 70. | <i>Zizyphus jujuba</i> Mill & Lamk.<br>(Rhamnaceae)                    | Chinese Date                 | Ber           | S | D |